

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Amended) A method of processing a prescription refill request via an interactive voice response system, the method comprising the steps of:
 providing access for a pharmacy to an interactive response system for obtaining approval of a refill request from a physician;
 prompting the pharmacy for a pharmacy identification;
 prompting the pharmacy for a patient identification; and
 prompting the pharmacy for an NDC number of a medication corresponding to the prescription to be filled,
 wherein at least one of the prompting steps includes audibly prompting the pharmacy.
2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying both the NDC number and the name of the medication to a physician for providing an authorization for the requested refill.
3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of the steps of:
 confirming the pharmacy identification;
 confirming the patient identification; and
 confirming the medication.
4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising at least one of the steps of:
 prompting for the date the prescription was last filled;
 prompting for the identification of the original prescribing physician; and

prompting for the quantity of the medication.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each response to a prompt is followed by a confirmation of the response and the prescription refill request is assigned a unique tracking identification.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: creating a database entry for each prescription refill request, the database entry including the NDC identification and a corresponding commercial or generic name of the medication corresponding to the NDC identification, whereby a physician or individual may consider and provide the refill authorization based on the commercial or generic name of the medication.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising at least one of the steps of:

providing a physician or other user access to the database entry;
prompting the physician or other user for the confirmation that the requested prescription is compatible with other medications, if any, prescribed to the patient;
prompting the physician or other user to enter comments;
prompting the physician or other user to indicate approval of the request; and
prompting the physician or other user to dispatch the indication of approval and corresponding comments, if any, to the requesting pharmacy.

Claims 8-21 (Previously Cancelled)

22. (Amended) An interactive voice response system of processing a prescription refill request, the system comprising:

means for providing access to an interactive response system for a pharmacy to obtain approval of refill requests from a physician;
means for prompting the pharmacy for a pharmacy identification;
means for prompting the pharmacy for a patient identification; and

means for prompting the pharmacy for an NDC number of a medication corresponding to the prescription to be filled,

wherein at least one of the prompting steps includes audibly prompting the pharmacy.

23. (Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising:

means for creating a database entry for each prescription refill request, the database entry including the NDC identification and a corresponding commercial or generic name of the medication corresponding to the NDC identification, whereby a physician or individual may consider and provide the refill authorization based on the commercial or generic name of the medication.

Claims 24-25 (Cancelled).

26. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein all three of the prompting steps includes audibly prompting the pharmacy.

27. (New) The system of claim 1, further including the steps of responding to the prompting steps by using a keypad on a telecommunication device.

28. (New) The system of claim 1, further comprising the step of confirming at least one of the pharmacy identification, patient identification and medication by:

providing an audible statement to the pharmacy, and
prompting for the pharmacy to indicate whether or not the statement is correct.

29. (New) A method of processing a prescription refill request comprising the steps of:

audibly prompting a pharmacy to provide information related to the refill request;
providing the information by using a keypad on a telecommunication device;
confirming the information by providing the pharmacy with an audible statement;
answering whether or not the audible statement is correct by using a keypad; and

displaying the information to a physician required to approve or deny the refill request.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the information is the pharmacy's phone number, and the audible statement is the name of the pharmacy.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the information is a portion of a patient's name or patient's date of birth, and the audible statement is the patient's full name.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the information is the NDC number of the medication requested for the refill request, and the audible statement is the name of the medication.

33. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein both the NDC number and the name of the medication is displayed to the physician.